REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication:	Vice Magazine Volume 3 Number 1 The Photo Issue
Other Known Title:	Vice: The Photo Issue (Volume 3 Number 1)
Format:	Magazine
Director/Author:	Not Applicable
Producer/Publisher:	Slow Right Down
Country of Origin:	New Zealand
Language:	English
Applicant:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Distributor:	Not Stated
Classification:	Unrestricted: Suitable for mature audiences 16 years of age and over.
Descriptive Note:	Not Applicable
Display Conditions:	Not Applicable
Date of entry in Register:	26 October 2005
Date of direction to issue a label:	Not Applicable
OFLC No:	501538
Excisions:	Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

Summary of reasons for classification:

The publication entitled *Vice Magazine Volume 3 Number 1 The Photo Issue* is classified as: Unrestricted: Suitable for mature audiences 16 years of age and over.

The magazine is largely made up of collections of photographs of varying sizes, grouped according to themes. The unrestricted availability of the publication is not considered likely to be injurious to the public good. This classification reflects that although the magazine contains disturbing violent, cruel and sexual images in terms of s3(1) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act), they are placed in contexts which lessen their impact to a large extent. The

publication also contains some highly offensive language, but it does not stand out within the magazine as a whole and is unlikely to cause serious harm in terms of 3A of the FVPC Act. Of more note is the material in the magazine that falls under s3B of the FVPC Act, including images of body modification, behaviour that poses risks if imitated and people's bodies coupled with text creating a degrading effect. However, there is such a variety of imagery in the publication that the few potentially disturbing images are unlikely to be focussed upon by the reader.

While the magazine contains a wide range of material considered under ss3(1), 3(A) and 3(B) of the FVPC Act, the content occurs infrequently and is not strong enough in terms of degree to warrant an age restriction. Overall, the magazine's diverse range of confrontational, disturbing and humorous images dominates, lessening the impact of any one individual depiction. A viewing audience of any age is likely to find the images offensive or unsettling, but is unlikely to be harmed by exposure to the material. Nonetheless, the publication's treatment of sex, violence and cruelty means that the publication is more suitable for audiences over the age of 16 years.

The classification of this publication does not interfere with the freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.